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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/716,516	11/20/2003	Sho Miyazaki	117813	6878
25944	7590	07/29/2004	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			GUSHI, ROSS N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 07/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/716,516

Applicant(s)

MIYAZAKI, SHO

Examiner

Ross N. Gushi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4, 7, 8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3,5,6 and 9-13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/20/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: line 14, it is not clear what is configured to be connected to the casing, the shielding shell or the shielding member. Appropriate correction is required. The claim is interpreted as meaning the shell is configured to be connected to the casing.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in —

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a);

Claims 1, 4, 7, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ko.

Regarding claim 1, Ko discloses a connector to be (i.e. capable of being) attached to equipment in which a plurality of terminals are provided in a shielding casing and a mounting hole formed on the shielding casing, the connector comprising a plurality of terminals 20 fixedly attached to an end portion of a plurality wires and configured to be (i.e. capable of being) connected to the terminals of the equipment,

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respectively; a housing 10" configured retain the plurality terminals and to be (i.e. capable of being) fit into the mounting hole; and a shielding shell 51" having conductive characteristic and fixedly attached to an end portion of a cylindrical shielding member 52" enclosing plurality of wires collectively, and configured to be connected shielding casing.

Per claim 4, the shielding shell comprises a flange portion 512" formed in plate-shape and configured to (i.e. capable of) abut against an outer wall surface of the shielding case.

Per claims 7 and 8, Ko discloses cover 60".

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Panis et al. ("Panis").

Regarding claim 1, Panis discloses a connector to be (i.e. capable of being) attached to equipment in which a plurality of terminals are provided in a shielding casing and a mounting hole formed on the shielding casing, the connector comprising a plurality of terminals (col. 1, line 62) fixedly attached to an end portion of a plurality wires and configured to be (i.e. capable of being) connected to the terminals of the equipment, respectively; a housing 4 configured retain the plurality terminals and to be (i.e. capable of being) fit into the mounting hole; and a shielding shell 5 having conductive characteristic and fixedly attached to an end portion of a cylindrical shielding member 15 enclosing plurality of wires collectively, and configured to be connected shielding casing.

Per claim 2, each of the housing and the shielding shell comprises a coupling

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units (9, 10) configured to be locked to each other to thereby couple the housing and the shielding shell with each other.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3, 5, 6, and 9-13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Regarding claim 3, the prior art does not suggest the connector as claimed, including the combination of all the claimed elements, the combination including that the coupling units comprises a lock hole formed on the flange portion and a locking protrusion in which configured to be locked in the lock hole in a manner projecting on a outer surface side of the flange portion as claimed. Regarding claim 5, the prior art does not suggest the connector as claimed, including the combination of all the claimed elements, the combination including that the flange portion comprises a protective wall formed by bending a circumferential edge thereof on the outer surface side. Regarding claim 6, the prior art does not suggest the connector as claimed, including the combination of all the claimed elements, the combination including the temporary locking unit as claimed. Regarding claim 9, the prior art does not suggest the connector as claimed, including the combination of all the claimed elements, the combination including the sealing member as claimed.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ross Gushi whose telephone number is (571) 272-

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2005. If attempts to reach the examiner by phone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley, can be reached at 571-272-2800 extension 33. The phone number for the Group's facsimile is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



ROSS GUSHI
PRIMARY EXAMINER